

a door frame molded into at least one of the side and end walls; and

a door hingedly attached to the door frame, the door controlling access to the vault

which is substantially vapor-tight making the vault substantially vapor tight.

24. A modular vault of claim 23 wherein the poured concrete is steel-reinforced.

25. A modular vault of claim 23 wherein the door is fire-resistant for a specified time and provided with bolts and locks.

26. A modular vault of claim 23 wherein a plurality of hooks are integrally formed into the unitary housing body for facilitating hoisting the housing body to the desired site.

Remarks

Applicants request the entry of this amendment after the final Office Action. The claims do not present new subject matter.

Prior claims 17-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Guardiani, and certain claims over Guardiani in view of Speer.

Applicants request consideration of the structure as defined in claims 23-26. The claimed invention is for a unitary monolithically poured concrete body which has a door frame molded into the poured concrete body with a door attached to the door frame rendering the entire structure substantially vapor tight. The Guardiani reference, on the other hand, is a prefabricated modular structure such as a residence. The Guardiani reference does not disclose a unitary monolithic concrete structure. Applicants urge that the invention is nonobvious based on the Guardiani reference, which discloses prefabricated construction of separate elements including beams, roofs, floors, panels, etc. The Guardiani disclosure is oppose to a monolithic structure and teaches away from the invention as claimed.

Dependent claims 24-26 are further refinements of the monolithic poured concrete vault of claim 23. These include steel reinforcement, additional features for the vault door and hooks for facilitating hoisting the housing body as described in those claims.

Applicants urge that claim 23 is nonobvious over the Guardiani reference, and the dependent claims following are likewise nonobvious.

No fees are believed due as a result of this reply. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 10-0447 (41241-00006USD1).

Respectfully submitted,

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